Finding Aid for the Joseph Gaer Papers, 1934-1957

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Finding Aid for the Joseph Gaer Papers, 1934-1957

Collection number: 379

UCLA Library, Department of Special Collections
Manuscripts Division

Los Angeles, CA

Processed by:
Manuscripts Division staff
Encoded by:
Caroline Cubé
Online finding aid edited by:
Josh Fiala, November 2003

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Joseph Gaer Papers,

Date (inclusive): 1934-1957

Collection number: 379

Creator: Gaer, Joseph, 1897-

Extent: 5 boxes (2.5 linear ft.)

Repository: University of California, Los Angeles Library, Dept. of Special Collections.

Los Angeles, California 90095-1575

Abstract: Joseph Gaer (originally Joseph Fishman) (1897-1969) was a lecturer in contemporary literature at UC Berkeley (1930-35), editor-in-chief and chief field supervisor for the Federal Writers Project (1935-39), consultant to the administrator of the Farm Security Administration (1939-41), special assistant to Secretary of the Treasury (1941-43), publicity director of the Political Action Committee for the Congress of Industrial Organizations (1943-45), founder and director of Pamphlet Press (1945-46), and president of Boni & Gaer (later Gaer Associates Publishing Company) (1946-49). He also wrote many books, including *The legend called Meryon* (1928), and *Our Jewish heritage* (1957). The collection consists of manuscripts of books written or edited by Joseph Gaer, and includes typescripts with holograph corrections and corrected galley and page proofs.

Physical location: Stored off-site at SRLF. Advance notice is required for access to the collection. Please contact the UCLA Library, Department of Special Collections Reference Desk for paging information.

Language: English.

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Restrictions on Access

COLLECTION STORED OFF-SITE AT SRLF: Advance notice required for access.

Provenance/Source of Acquisition


Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Joseph Gaer Papers (Collection 379). Department of Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, University of California, Los Angeles.

UCLA Catalog Record ID

UCLA Catalog Record ID: 1470466

Biography

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Joseph Gaer (originally Joseph Fishman) was born March 16, 1897 in Yedinitz, Russia; came to U.S., 1917; attended colleges in the U.S. and Canada; lecturer in contemporary literature, UC Berkeley, 1930-35; editor-in-chief and chief field supervisor, Federal Writers Project, 1935-39; consultant to administrator of Farm Security Administration, 1939-41; special assistant to Secretary of the Treasury, 1941-43; publicity director of Political Action Committee, Congress of Industrial Organizations, 1943-45; founder and director of Pamphlet Press, 1945-46; president, Boni & Gaer (later Gaer Associates Publishing Company), 1946-49; in 1958 became founder and director of Jewish Heritage Foundation, Beverly Hills; wrote many books, including *The legend called Meryon* (1928), *How the great religions began* (1929), and *Our Jewish heritage* (1957); died December 7, 1969.

**Scope and Content**
Collection consists of manuscripts of books written or edited by Joseph Gaer. Includes typescripts with holograph corrections and corrected galley and page proofs.

**Organization and Arrangement**
Arranged in the following series:
1. *Modern family Bible* (Box 1).
3. *The fables of India, Holidays around the world, Young heroes of the living religions* (Box 3).
4. *Holidays around the world* (corrected proofs), *The wisdom of living religions* (Box 4).
5. *Our Jewish heritage* (Box 5).

**Indexing Terms**
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.
Gaer, Joseph, 1897- --Archives.
Authors, American--20th century--Archival resources.
Jewish authors--20th century--Archival resources.
Manuscripts for publication.

**Box 1**
*Modern family Bible, O.T. and N.T.* edited by and annotated by Joseph Gaer and Chester C. McCown. Santa Monica, n.d.
Physical Description: 8 parts in 4. "Prefinal draft" Multilith process. Some corrections in ink.

**Box 2**
Creator/Collector: Gaer, Joseph, 1897-
Physical Description: 259, 10 leaves. Typescript with holograph corrections.
Note

**Box 2**
*Jack London, bibliography, biographical data and index of works.* From California State Emergency Relief Administration's California Literary Research Monographs no.1. [n.p., 1934].
Physical Description: 45 leaves. Typescript.

**Box 2**
Creator/Collector: Gaer, Joseph, 1897-
Scope and Content Note
Box 3  
- Creator/Collector: Gaer, Joseph, 1897-
- Physical Description: 263 leaves. Typescript with holograph corrections.
- Note
- Gift of the author, October 1955.

Box 3  
_Holidays around the world._ New York, n.d.
- Creator/Collector: Gaer, Joseph, 1897-
- Physical Description: 244, [18] leaves. Typescript with holograph corrections in 2 folders.
- Note

Box 4  
_Also: corrected galley proofs. First published by Little, Brown, Boston, 1953._
- Physical Description: 68 sheets. Book jacket included.

Box 3  
- Creator/Collector: Gaer, Joseph, 1897-
- Physical Description: 244, [19] leaves. Typescript with holograph corrections.
- Note
- Gift of the author, November 1953.

Box 4  
_The wisdom of living religions._ n.p., n.d.
- Creator/Collector: Gaer, Joseph, 1897-
- Physical Description: ca. 300 leaves. Typescript with holograph corrections.
- Note
- Gift of the author, October 1955.

Box 4  
_Also: 1. corrected galley proofs. First published by Dodd, Mead, New York, 1956._
- Physical Description: 77 sheets. 2. corrected page proofs. 324 pages.
- Note

Box 4  
- Creator/Collector: Gaer, Joseph, 1897-
- Physical Description: xv, 317, 30 leaves. Typescript with holograph corrections.

Box 4  
_Also: 1. corrected galley proofs. First published by Henry Holt, New York, 1957._
- Physical Description: 77 sheets. 2. corrected page proofs. 234pp.
- Note
- Gift of the author, April 1958.